



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
PLANNING DIVISION  
TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD  
50 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
WEST HARTFORD, CT 06107-2431  
TEL: (860) 561-7555 FAX: (860) 561-7504  
[www.westhartford.org](http://www.westhartford.org)

**PERMIT APPLICATION FOR INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES**  
**ACTIVITY: (check one of the following)**

     MAP AMENDMENT

  X   REGULATED ACTIVITY

File # 1053 Application Fee      Surcharge Fee      Date Received 12.16.16

Street Address of Proposed Application: Trout Brook Drive

Zone: R-10 Acreage/Lot Area 0.28 AC Parcel/Lot# ROW; See Narrative

Applicant's Interest in Property: Owner

Brief Description of Proposed Activity: Construct multi-use trail adjacent to Trout Brook  
and Trout Brook Drive, between Duffield Drive and Asylum Avenue (Phase 7)

The undersigned warrants the truth of all statements contained herein and in all supporting documents to the best of his/her knowledge and belief. Furthermore, the applicant agrees that submission of this document constitutes permission and consent to Commission and Staff inspections of the site. *Note: Notice is hereby given the Connecticut Department of Public Health must be notified by applicants for any project located within a public water supply aquifer protection area or watershed area. (CTDPH website at <http://www.dph.state.ct.us>)*

Town of West Hartford

Record Owner's Name

50 South Main Street

Street

West Hartford, CT 06107

City

State

Zip

Telephone #

Duane J. Martin, PE, Town Engineer

Applicant's Name

50 South Main Street, Room 204

Street

West Hartford, CT 06107

City

State

Zip

860-561-7539

Telephone #

**Contact Person:**

James R. Brennan, PE, Civil Engineer II  
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Duane J. Martin

Applicant's Signature

Duane J. Martin

Signature of Owner/Authorized Agent

**Permit Application for Inland Wetlands &  
Watercourses Activity**

for

**Trout Brook Multi-Use Trail Phases 5, 6, & 7**

in

**West Hartford, Connecticut**

DEEP State Project No. 2015-15189

DOT State Project No. L155-0001

Submitted by:

Town of West Hartford  
Division of Engineering  
50 South Main Street  
Room 204  
West Hartford, CT 06107  
December 16, 2016



### **Project Description:**

This project calls for the construction of a 10-foot wide, asphalt multi-use trail along the east side of Trout Brook, between Farmington Avenue and Asylum Avenue, in West Hartford. Broken up into three separate phases, the trail is being funded by three corresponding sources. The Phase 5 section, funded by a Federal Highway Administration National Recreational Trails grant and administered by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), is located between Farmington Avenue and Fern Street. Continuing from Fern Street to Duffield Drive is Phase 6, which is funded by a Connecticut Department of Transportation grant and administered by the Capitol Region Council of Governments. Lastly, Phase 7 runs from Duffield Drive to Asylum Avenue and is funded from the Town of West Hartford's Pedestrian and Bicycle Management Fund.

The majority of the project is being constructed on State of Connecticut land, with small portions being constructed within the Right-of-Way (ROW) of Trout Brook Drive. Virtually all of the 2.88 acre project is within the 150' Regulated Activity Area (2.79 acres), and a majority of those areas is within the designated wetland boundary (2.08 acres). The State of Connecticut lots are as follows:

- 1) 914 Farmington Avenue
- 2) 495 Trout Brook Drive
- 3) 1141 Trout Brook Drive
- 4) 392 Fern Street
- 5) 411 Fern Street
- 6) 1153 Trout Brook Drive
- 7) 1281 Trout Brook Drive

These sections of multi-use trail are part of the Town of West Hartford's long term goal to create a trail from Elmwood to the University of Connecticut parcel. Phases 5, 6, and 7 will link with the existing Phase 4 trail, located between Park Road and Farmington Avenue. The other existing pieces, Phases 1 and 2, are located between New Park Avenue and Jackson Avenue. A future Phase 3 will run from Jackson Avenue to Park Road, completing the 3.5 mile trail system. Future expansion onto the UConn parcel may also occur.

Ownership and maintenance of all three phases of the trail facility will be the responsibility of the Town of West Hartford, while DEEP will retain ownership of the land on which the majority of Phases 5 and 6 rest. The Town is actively seeking a Recreation Easement from DEEP for the trail.

Minor modifications to the existing traffic signals at Farmington Avenue and Fern Street will include the addition of Accessible Pedestrian Signals (audible pushbuttons).

An existed pipe outflow waterway across Phase 6 will be reconstructed to drop the pipe below proposed trail grade. Additionally, a minor yard drain will be reconstructed adjacent to the trail in Phase 5. No other drainage improvements are proposed. Generally, the trail will grade towards Trout Brook as the existing engineered bench does today. In areas where the trail is immediately adjacent to a Trout Brook Drive, it will be pitched towards the roadway, allowing stormwater to enter the existing storm drain system as it does today.

Sedimentation and erosion control systems consistent with the Best Management Practices will be utilized on the project to protect Trout Brook during construction. Specifically, catch basin filter sacks and coir logs (wattles) will be installed when unstabilized surfaces are present. Generally, silt fence will not be installed, as the disturbance to install it will outweigh the benefits. As much of the trail is situated on existing concrete cellular mats (Gobi Blocks), installation of silt fence would require removal or modifications to the mats.

Due to minimum clear zone requirements for trail users and a generally confined project site, approximately forty trees are scheduled to be removed as part of construction on Phases 6 and 7. Although it is not desirable to remove trees, user safety is a priority and there is no alignment that can avoid tree removal. Additionally, the majority of the trees scheduled to be removed are smaller diameter trees (6"-12"), growing at odd angles, and are not in excellent health. Every live tree that is removed will be replaced with a new tree on or adjacent to the project sites. Due to floodway restrictions, most of these new trees will be planted away from the trail and closer to Trout Brook Drive.

The trail is designed in accordance with the American Association of Highway and Transportation Officials' 2012 Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities. While the 10' width may seem wide, it is the minimum recommended width for bicycle facilities and is not intended for motorized vehicles. The use of pavement as the trail surface both allows for ease of maintenance in the future as well as provides the most accessible surface for all users, including wheelchairs.

Phases 5 and 6 are expected to be bid in late spring 2017 (Phase 7 has already been bid). Construction on all phases is anticipated to start in summer 2017 with completion by fall 2017 or spring 2018.

### **Floodplain Involvement:**

Much of the trail's alignment is situated adjacent to Trout Brook on the existing engineered bench, within the 100-year floodplain. Filling will be limited, but when required, there will be compensatory cutting. Generally, filling is only proposed when absolutely necessary in order to allow trail grades to meet Americans with Disabilities Act requirements. DEEP will have final review with regard to facilities located in the floodplain and floodway, particularly trail fencing and furniture. Fencing is to be wooden split-rail and installed only where absolutely necessary for safety purposes. No additional obstructions beyond fencing and furniture within the floodway are proposed.

### **Public Outreach and Comment:**

A public informational meeting will occur for these projects on January 17, 2017. Letters will be issued to all adjacent property owners informing them of the meeting. Additionally, letters have already been issued to the eleven properties that directly abut the trail. Landscaping and other trail comments will be addressed with future plan modifications.

### **Public Support:**

This project has received support by the West Hartford Town Council, the Town Manager, and the Bicycle Advisory Committee. In addition, the Trout Brook Trail is recommended by the West Hartford Plan of Conservation & Development, 2009-2019.

# Trout Brook Regulated Area - Multi Use Trail Phase 7



## MAP FOR REFERENCE ONLY NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT

Town of West Hartford, CT makes no claims and no warranties, expressed or implied, concerning the validity or accuracy of the GIS data presented on this map.

Parcels updated 5/1/2016  
Properties updated Daily





## Statewide Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Activity Reporting Form

*Please complete and mail this form in accordance with the instructions on pages 2 and 3 to:  
Wetlands Management Section, Inland Water Resources Division, CT DEEP, 79 Elm Street – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Hartford, CT 06106*

### PART I: To Be Completed By the Municipal Inland Wetlands Agency Only

1. DATE ACTION WAS TAKEN: Year Click Here for Year Month Click Here for Month
2. ACTION TAKEN: Click Here to Choose a Code
3. WAS A PUBLIC HEARING HELD (check one)? Yes ☐ No ☐
4. NAME OF AGENCY OFFICIAL VERIFYING AND COMPLETING THIS FORM:  
(type name) \_\_\_\_\_ (signature) \_\_\_\_\_

### PART II: To Be Completed By the Municipal Inland Wetlands Agency or the Applicant

5. TOWN IN WHICH THE ACTION IS OCCURRING (type name): West Hartford  
Does this project cross municipal boundaries (check one)? Yes ☐ No ☒  
If Yes, list the other town(s) in which the action is occurring (type name(s)): \_\_\_\_\_
6. LOCATION (click on hyperlinks for information): USGS Quad Map Name: Hartford North or Quad Number: 37  
Subregional Drainage Basin Number: 4403
7. NAME OF APPLICANT, VIOLATOR OR PETITIONER (type name): Town of West Hartford
8. NAME & ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PROJECT SITE (type information): Trout Brook Drive between Duffield Drive and Asylum Avenue, West Hartford CT 06119  
Briefly describe the action/project/activity (check and type information): Temporary ☐ Permanent ☒ Description: Paved Trail
9. ACTIVITY PURPOSE CODE: P
10. ACTIVITY TYPE CODE(S): 2, 9, 12, NA
11. WETLAND / WATERCOURSE AREA ALTERED (type in acres or linear feet as indicated):  
Wetlands: 0.00 acres Open Water Body: \_\_\_\_\_ acres Stream: \_\_\_\_\_ linear feet
12. UPLAND AREA ALTERED (type in acres as indicated): 0.19 acres
13. AREA OF WETLANDS / WATERCOURSES RESTORED, ENHANCED OR CREATED (type in acres as indicated): 0.00 acres

DATE RECEIVED:

**PART III: To Be Completed By the DEEP**

DATE RETURNED TO DEEP:

FORM COMPLETED: YES NO

FORM CORRECTED / COMPLETED: YES NO